

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Last Household Hazardous Waste Collections for 2010, Extra Help for Seniors

As Halloween nears, check to see if your home is "haunted" with household hazardous wastes you no longer use or need. If the answer is yes, come to one of the October 2010 Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) collections and let the Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department (LLCHD) help you clear out those scary solvents, thinners, pesticides, and other potentially hazardous chemicals lurking in your garage or basement:

Friday, October 22 – 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. – appointment only – call 441-8084 Saturday, October 23 – 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. – Woods Park, 31st & J Streets

Both collections are for households only. The Friday, October 22, event is LLCHD's second appointment-only collection, which provides convenient scheduling and less time waiting in line for participants who call early for one of the limited number of appointments. The Saturday, October 23 collection will take place in the parking lot at the south end of Woods Park. These are the last two collections scheduled for 2010, so this is a good time to clean out hazardous products, improve indoor air quality before the house is closed up for the winter, and make your home safe from accidents or poisoning.

Items accepted at the HHW collection include excess or unwanted pesticides or lawn chemicals, burned out fluorescent bulbs (CFLs) and tubes, paint thinners, stains, polishes and waxes, turpentine, oil-based paint, pool cleaning chemicals, flea and tick powders, rodent poison, charcoal starter fluids, mixed or old gasoline, mercury-containing items including thermometers, upholstery cleaners, grease removers and brake and power steering fluids.

Items that can be recycled or safely disposed of locally will <u>not</u> be accepted at the HHW collections: latex paint, motor oil, gas grill cylinders, pharmaceutical waste, electronics, and batteries. For more information, call 441-8021 or check on-line at <u>www.lincoln.ne.gov</u> (Keyword: household).

Extra Help for Elderly Residents: If you have an elderly neighbor or relative with a lifetime's accumulation of dangerous products, and who may need help deciding what to keep or throw out, contact Aging Partners at 441-7030 about the Safe Homes for Seniors program, a collaboration between that agency and LLCHD. Handymen will help clear their homes of hazardous products, keeping both the seniors and any young visitors safe from accidental exposure.